

all the interests of that enormous country extending from the head of the Lakes to the Pacific.

Hon. Mr. FOWLER: To British Columbia?

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: While British Columbia did not respond to the appeal in the late election, yet I may say to my honourable friend that there has been considerable activity in British Columbia since, and I fear it may find expression in some future election.

We have, in the payment of income tax, a very fair standard by which to judge the responsibility of representation and the measure which should find recognition on the floor of Parliament in a general way. We have 16,652 farmers paying income tax, and out of a total of 194,257 income tax payers. That is to say, the farmers of this Dominion are represented by about one twelfth of those who are paying income tax. They pay about three quarters of one per cent of the income tax and the business profits tax. If we eliminate the business profits tax and consider only the income tax, we find that they pay a little over one and a half per cent of the entire income taxes of this Dominion. Yet, notwithstanding the large cities and towns and urban municipalities in those three provinces, and notwithstanding the fact, that the farmers pay an infinitesimal proportion of the income tax and leave it to other classes to pay the balance, the ground is taken impliedly by the Progressives that they are the only people who shall have representation in Parliament.

This spirit of a province or a group of provinces, seeking to exclude all other classes from representation on the floor of Parliament is exactly the same spirit which expressed itself in Germany during the war, the spirit of insisting upon dominating everybody else, and which Mr. Lloyd George very properly designated, when he spoke of Germany, as the road hog of Europe.

It seems to me that during the late two general elections we have introduced a most mischievous spirit of political rivalry into the electorate, and it is unfortunate that it has been carried out to the extent of which I speak. The interests of all those provinces could be better represented on the floor of Parliament with a fair representation of the different political groups, or under the dual party system, than they are at present with a solid representation of one political party.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED.

Before sitting down may I be permitted to extend my congratulations to His Honour the Speaker upon the recognition paid to him by the Government. My honourable friend's association with this House for so many years has impressed all of us with the fact that there is no more painstaking, industrious or courteous member in it—

Some Hon. SENATORS: Hear, hear.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: And I am satisfied that he will fill the high office to which he has been appointed with credit to himself and with satisfaction to the House and to the country. I trust that during the term of office of this Government, whether it is one Parliament or more, my honourable friend may be spared to occupy the Chair which he so well graces.

I have also to extend my congratulations to my honourable friend opposite representing the Government (Hon. Mr. Dandurand). I have been associated with him in this House for a great number of years, and that association has been an extremely pleasant one. During that period, militant as my honourable friend has been when anything affecting his own Province has come before him, I may say that he has always given the greatest courtesy and attention to any matter in which we have been interested. And I must say that during the term of office of the late Government, when I occupied the Chair which he occupies to-day, I received from him all the support I could possibly expect, and a valued assistance which he never hesitated to give in the promotion of measures which were manifestly for the public good. I am sure that the experience and knowledge and ability of my honourable friend will be spent not only in the service of the country, but will be acceptable to this House during the time he occupies the position of Government leader.

I have to congratulate the mover and the seconder of the Address upon their appointment to the Senate and upon the speeches which they have made this afternoon. Both these gentlemen come from the House of Commons, and I am satisfied that their experience in that House will be of advantage to the deliberations of this Chamber, and will facilitate the business which from time to time comes before us.

I am sure that it will give this side of the House the greatest pleasure to contribute in every possible way to the transaction of public business. I do not think that while the present Government is in office